

have done excellent work in reproducing them—some twenty-one in number. The book will make a capital gift book. It is racily written, and gives interesting incidents of early life in this province and of leading events in its history.

William Briggs announces that he has secured the Canadian market for "The Butterfly Book," a companion volume to "Bird Neighbors," a work which has had a considerable sale in Canada and is greatly and deservedly admired. This new work is from the pen of W. J. Holland, L.L. D., an enthusiastic student of the butterflies, one of the first authorities on the subject, and whose collection is considered the finest on the continent. As with "Bird Neighbors" the illustrations will form a striking feature of the work. Hundreds of specimens will be shown in their natural colors photographed from the butterflies themselves. The publishers, Messrs. Doubleday & McClure, of New York, believe that in the "Butterfly Book" they have reached the highest mark yet made in color photography. The book will be placed on the market in good time for Christmas, and should make a good specialty for the holiday trade.

William Briggs has in the press a volume of uncommonly good French-Canadian Stories by Henry Cecil Walsh, of Montreal, a young writer of great promise. Though this is his first book, Mr. Walsh is not unknown to the Canadian reading public. A story of his, "A Songless Canary" won for the author the prize of \$100 offered by "Massey's Magazine" (prior to its amalgamation with the CANADIAN MAGAZINE), for the best Canadian short story. While this and other of the stories have appeared in the magazines, the most of them are being set up from the original MSS. Mr. Walsh excels in vivid and faithful portrayal of the quaint *habitants*. Thin habits, customs and odd little peculiarities he deftly has caught and woven into stories that for original conception, dramatic power and sustained interest have not been surpassed in the Dominion. It is such work as this that Canada needs to prove to the outside world that we have a national literature, a something more than the weak reproductions of old world poets and characters.

"Dwellers in Gotham," is the title of a story by a clever American writer, who conceals his identity under the *nom de plume* of "Annan Dale," which will be published simultaneously in England, the United States and Canada—in this country by William Briggs, Toronto. It is a vivid, striking story of New York's social, commercial

and religious life. The three phases of the temptation of Christ—the appeal to hunger, to pride and to ambition—are shown to be in the life of all men, some yielding and some overcoming. The book discusses through its characters the most important questions of the day. Hugh Dunbar, a reverend radical, introduces the reader to East side and tenement life; Dr. Disney, a popular physician, to life up town; Keen & Sharp to the brokers of Wall street; while Silas Smithers takes him to Traders' Union Meetings. Madge Disney, a member of Gotham's "Four Hundred," is the heroine of a charming romance. Sister Nora's charities engage the sympathies; Dixon Faber, a reporter on the "Trambone," opens several doors of mystery; Mark Brompton, the banker, is a study in himself, and so is the Rev. Dr. Bland. A rich vein of humor runs throughout the book; the conversations are unusually bright and clever, and the narrative plot, well sustained throughout, is marked alternately by the humorous, the pathetic and the strongly dramatic. The book will appear early in this month.

No finer field exists in America for the writer of historical tales than is presented in the unique life of the early French colony in Canada, with its curious admixture of chivalry and savagery, of refinement and rudeness, its courtly nobles, swaggering gallants, heroic priests, enterprising traders and reckless rollicking voyageurs and bush-rangers. Here is a mine offering rich rewards to the literary dealer. Its glittering stores have been drawn upon but little as yet. Kirby, Parker, Roberts, Miss Machar, Marquis, Mrs. Harrison, and Lighthall have given us capital stories, but they have only suggested the possibilities of the field.

Miss Blanche Lucile Macdonell, a young lady of Montreal, is the most recent writer to place the scene of her story in French Canada, taking for period the troublesome times of Frontenac's second administration. As the little "Diane of Ville Marie" implies, the story is of Montreal. Many of the characters are historical personages, Jacques Le Ber, de Crisasi, Dollier de Casson, Frontenac himself and others. Many of the incidents, too, are gleaned from the records of history. The whole story gives evidence of close study of the period, and most admirably reproduces the picturesque life of the times. The characters are drawn with skilful hand, the conversations are uncommonly bright and piquant, and the book abounds in descriptive passages of rare beauty. Altogether it is a strong, brilliant story; an addition of permanent value to our literature. A very handsome cover has been designed by Mr. S. C. Simonski, a clever Toronto artist. The trade will do well to place early orders for the holiday trade.

## Literary Notes.

One of the most important publications of the year is "Emin Pasha: His Life and Work," the American rights of which have just been bought by Messrs. Hadley & Matthews, of New York. These two octavo volumes are compiled by his literary executor from the great explorer's journals, letters and scientific notes, as well as from the official documents. It is, indeed, a piece of rare good fortune that Emin's carefully written and copious notes have been recovered, especially at this time when the eyes of the world, owing to the Fashoda affair, are directed to the very territory which he explored and which is about to be re-opened.

To the jaded reader of current fiction "Enoch, The Philistine," appeals by reason of its broad, serious simplicity and dignity. The book is both arousing and restful. In it there is none of that straining for effect nor of those exaggerations of eccentricity which plague the literary world so bitterly just now, nor any of those contortions which have become so tiresome in their changeless changes. To come upon this new book and read its pages is like resting, though alert in thought, in the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. The style of it, alone, is a great comfort; being modeled, as it plainly is, upon the matchless prose of our English Bible.

An international event of importance is the announcement of the publication of the genuine memoirs of Bismarck, written (or dedicated) and revised by the late Prince himself. The work, edited by the well-known Bismarckian historiographer, Herr Horst Kohl, is to appear shortly under the title of "Gedanken und Erinnerungen." These "Recollections and Reflections" constitute not alone the autobiography of a great statesman, but the most important contribution to historical literature in the last quarter of a century. The book appears in two large volumes simultaneously from the house of Harper & Brothers in New York, under the title, in English, of "Bismarck's Autobiography," from Cotta in Germany, from Smith, Elder & Co., in England.

The late Charles A. Dana's "Recollections of the Civil War," published at \$2 by D. Appleton & Co., forms one of the most remarkable volumes of historical, political, and personal reminiscences which have been given to the public. Mr. Dana was not only practically a member of the Cabinet and in the confidence of the leaders of Washington, but he was also the chosen representative of the War Department with General Grant and other military com-